



# ROYAL LANE

BAPTIST CHURCH



*WELCOME TO WORSHIP*

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

# WELCOME

TO ROYAL LANE BAPTIST CHURCH



Whether you're a longtime member or a first-time guest, we're so glad you're here!

This summer, we're journeying through a worship series called *Faces of Our Faith*. Each week, we'll tell the story of a biblical figure - some well-known, others less familiar - whose life has shaped the story of God's people. These are the saints, seekers, strugglers, and everyday folks through whom God

has moved, reminding us that God works through all kinds of people in all kinds of ways.

You'll also notice that we're worshiping in a new space. While our sanctuary undergoes renovations, we'll be gathering here in Vickrey Hall. This may not be the setting we're used to, but we hope this space still feels sacred - a place of welcome, connection, and community.

It's a good reminder that God's presence is not tied to a particular building. Sacred space isn't just about architecture, it's about hearts turned toward God and one another. So as we prepare for worship, may we turn our hearts toward the one who made us and toward the people around us.

We're grateful you're here.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Victoria Robb Powers'.

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

# THE *WORSHIP OF GOD*

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



To help maintain the spirit of worship, please silence all electronic devices.

✚ = *please rise in body or in spirit*

## Gathering Music

*Jeanie Chuang*

### Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Arranged by Mary McDonald

*(Please consider the opening sentences during gathering music.)*

In the stillness of this hour, we remember Jacob at the river's edge -  
a man caught in the night, wrestling with mystery, refusing to let go.

To struggle with God is also to struggle for God:  
for clarity, for blessing, for presence.  
It is to wrestle with the very name of God,  
with what we believe and what we doubt,  
with what we have lost and what we still hope for.

The struggle is not a sign of absence but of nearness.  
It is the grip of one who will not let go.  
It is the meeting place of wound and blessing.  
It is the place where we are named,  
and where we are changed.

As the music carries us into worship,  
may we dare to enter the struggle,  
to hold on through the long night,  
and to wait, expectant,  
for the dawn of God's blessing.

## **Call to Worship & Invocation**

*Rev. Harry Wooten & Congregation*

We come together in anticipation, seeking a face-to-face encounter with our Holy God.

**Like Jacob at the river Jabbok, we find ourselves alone with God, wrestling with our fears and our doubts.**

We admit our brokenness and our weakness, bringing all of our struggles into God's presence.

**We will not let go until we receive God's blessing.**

Do not be afraid to wrestle, to cling to God, to call out for grace.

**For when we wrestle with God and prevail, we are changed forever and given a new name.**

God meets us in the unexpected and the wilderness. God holds onto us when we are weary.

**So let us worship the Lord our God, with all our strength, our weakness, and our hope.**

Let us pray:

**Holy God, just as Jacob wrestled for a blessing and received it,  
we ask that You would bless us with Your presence and guidance.  
May we be transformed through these encounters with You,  
so that we may become a greater blessing to others  
and point them to the faith of Jesus Christ,  
in whose name, we pray. Amen.**



# When We Are Tested

SLANE

Unison



1. When we are test - ed and wres - tle a - lone,  
 2. When in the des - ert we cry for re - lief,  
 3. When we are tempt - ed to bar - ter our souls,  
 4. When we have strug - gled and searched through the night,

fam - ished for bread when the world of - fers stone,  
 plead - ing for paths marked by cer - tain be - lief,  
 trad - ing the truth for the power to con - trol,  
 sort - ing and sift - ing the wrong from the right,

nour - ish us, God, by Your word and Your way,  
 lift us to love You be - yond sign and test,  
 teach us to wor - ship and praise on - ly You,  
 Sav - ior, sur - round us with cir - cles of care,

food that sus - tains us by night and by day.  
 trust - ing Your pres - ence, our on - ly true rest.  
 seek - ing Your will in the work that we do.  
 an - gels of heal - ing, of hope, and of prayer.

## Words of Welcome

*Rev. Victoria Robb Powers*

Christ be with you ... **and also with you!**

*If you are a guest with us this morning, we invite you to register your attendance by scanning the QR code.*



## Scripture Lesson

*Kay Carpenter*

### Genesis 32:22-32

The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. Therefore to this day the Israelites do not eat the thigh muscle that is on the hip socket, because he struck Jacob on the hip socket at the thigh muscle.

For the Word of God in Scripture, For the Word of God within us,  
For the Word of God among us, **Thanks be to God!**

## Time for Young Disciples

*11am - Rev. Beth Johnson*

During the 11am service, children 3-years of age through 3rd grade are invited to Godly Play.

Children Grades 4 through 6, are invited to Young Theologians.

*You may collect your children following the service in the Christian Education Building.*

# O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

George Matheson, Albert L. Pearce



1 O Love that will not let me go,  
 2 O Light that fol - lowest all my way,  
 3 O Joy that seek - est me through pain,  
 4 O Cross that lift - est up my head,

I rest my wea - ry soul in thee;  
 I yield my flick - ering torch to thee;  
 I can - not close my heart to thee;  
 I dare not ask to fly from thee;

I give thee back the life I owe, that  
 my heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, that  
 I trace the rain - bow through the rain, and  
 I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, and

in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.  
 in thy sun - shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.  
 feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.  
 from the ground there blos - soms red life that shall end - less be.

## Offertory Prayer

Merciful God, we come to you this day,  
acknowledging that like Jacob,  
we sometimes wrestle through the night,  
clinging to You and seeking Your blessing.

*9am - Cecilia Gutierrez*

*11am - Leslie Cechan*

We bring the gifts of ourselves, our time, and our possessions,  
not because of our own strength, but because of Your faithfulness and grace.

As You blessed Jacob and called him Israel,  
transform us through the power of the Holy Spirit.  
May these offerings be blessed by Your hand  
and used to spread Your boundless love and compassion to a world in need.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

## Offertory

*Jeanie Chuang*

Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place

Arranged by Reflect des Nuages

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*We invite you to use  
this time to give to  
Royal Lane's Ministry.*



## **Pastoral Prayer**

*Mel Beller*

## **Anthem**

*Choir*

### **Jacob's Ladder** **Arranged by Gilbert M. Martin**

*We are climbing Jacob's ladder,  
soldiers of the cross.*

*Every round goes higher, higher,  
soldiers of the cross.*

*Sinner, do you love my Jesus?  
If you love him, why not serve him?*

## **Sermon**

*Rev. Victoria Robb Powers*

**“The Struggle with God”**

## **Moment of Contemplation**



# Seek Ye First

*Descant* D F#m G D G

Al - - - le - - - lu - - - ia, Al-

1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God and God's  
2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and

D Em7 A7sus D F#m

le - - - lu - ia, Al - - - le-

right - teous - ness, and all these things shall be  
ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be

G D G Em D

lu - - - ia, Al - - - le - - lu - ia!

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!



## Blessing and Welcoming New Members

*Rev. Victoria Robb Powers*

*Ron and Jeanna Fellers  
Ronald H. McKee*

Do you desire to continue your journey into Christ as a member of Royal Lane Baptist Church?

*New Members: We do.*

Will you commit yourself to seek and serve Christ in this community of faith and pledge to work, pray, and give to build up our common life?

*New Members: We will, with God's help.*

To the members of Royal Lane Baptist Church, will you witness these promises and do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

All: **We will.**

## Benediction

*Rev. Victoria Robb Powers*

## Closing Music

*Jeanie Chuang*

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ  
Arranged by John Carter



# WORSHIP *NOTES*



## Cover Art

*Israel*, by Mike Moyers, 2011.

From Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-image/act-image-link.pl?RC=57141> [retrieved September 9, 2025]. Original source:

Mike Moyers, <https://www.mikemoyersfineart.com/>.

## Hymn Notes

### **Swing Low, Sweet Chariot**

Arranged by Mary McDonald

2018 Lorenz Publishing Company

### **When We Are Tested**

Words: Ruth Duck, 1996

Music: Trad. Irish melody, arr. David Allen, 1986

Words © 1996 Hope Publishing Company.

Arr. © 1986 Word Music, LLC.

### **O Love That Will Not Let Me Go**

Text: George Matheson

Tune: Albert L. Pearce

Public Domain

### **Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place**

Arranged by Reflect des Nuages

Musicalibra Corporation

### **Jacob's Ladder**

Arranged by Gilbert M. Martin

Copyright © 1983 by Hinshaw Music Co., Inc.

### **Seek Ye First**

Words and Music: Karen Lafferty (1948- ); para.

Matthew 6:33, 7:7

Words and Music © 1972 Maranatha! Music

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### **Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ**

LINSTEAD/Jamaican folk tune

Arranged by John Carter

1998 Hope Publishing Company

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# ROYAL LANE *HAPPENINGS*



## Medicare Info Event

*Tuesday, September 16, 6:30pm, Vickrey Hall*

Have questions about Medicare coverage? Need help with enrollment? Our own Dan Thompson will run another information event, covering everything from fundamentals to plan changes and drug coverage. Please RSVP to Dan at 214-206-6373.



*THIS WEDNESDAY  
LUNCH+LEARN SERIES*

## Mara Bim

*The Courage to Listen: Responding to Stories of Racism*

## Lunch + Learn

*Wednesday, September 17, 12:00pm*

*(Lunch Line opens at 11:30am)*

Join us for this important conversation with our Justice & Advocacy Fellow, Mara Richards Bim. She will share about how we might find courage to listen and respond to stories of racism.



## Club Meetings

*Thursday, September 18, 8:00pm*

Women of the church will gather to discuss *The Phoenix Pencil Company*. Men of the church will listen to an album and enjoy whiskey together. Contact the church office for meeting locations



## Community Dinner

*Saturday, September 20, 6:00pm*

You still have time to join Community Dinner this Saturday! Members will be grouped together for a night of food and fellowship. Dinner takes place from 6-8pm. Follow the QR code to register.

*See Coming Events on our website for more information.*

**ROYALLANE.ORG**

# WEEKLY *SCHEDULE*



## **Sunday, September 14**

12:15 pm: Racial Justice Team Meeting — Christian Education Building, Room 212

## **Monday, September 15**

8:00 am: Weekly Prayer Vigil — Outside Dallas ICE Office (8101 N Stemmons Fwy)

7:30 pm: Young Adult Mondays — Harris Youth Cottage

## **Tuesday, September 16**

6:30 pm: Medicare Information Event — Vickrey Hall

## **Wednesday, September 17**

12:00 pm Lunch + Learn — Vickrey Hall (Lunch line opens at 11:30 am)

Program: Mara Bim, "The Courage to Listen: Responding to Stories of Racism"

4:00 pm: Holy Rollers — Christian Education Building, Room 212 (4:00 - 5:45 pm)

6:15 pm: Youth Gathering — Youth Cottage

7:15 pm: Choir — Vickrey Hall

## **Thursday, September 18**

8:00 pm: Pastor's Book Club for Women — Call Church Office for Meeting Location

8:00 pm: Men's Music & Whiskey Club — Home of Matt Powers

## **Saturday, September 20**

2:00 pm: Questers Class — Zoom

6:00 pm: Community Dinner — Member Homes

## **Sunday, September 21**

9:00 am: Morning Worship — Vickrey Hall

9:45 am: Adult Christian Education — Christian Education Building & Library

9:45 am: New Pre-K Sunday School Class — Childcare Room

9:45 am: Children's Christian Education — Christian Education Building

9:45 am: Youth Christian Education — Harris Youth Cottage

11:00 am: Morning Worship — Vickrey Hall & Royal Lane YouTube Channel

Godly Play (following Time for Young Disciples) — Godly Play Room

Children 3-year through Third Grade



# HOW TO *CONNECT*

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## Event Details

See the Weekly News & Journal or Web Calendar for links and details for In-Person, Livestream, Virtual or Zoom events. [royallane.org/resources/event](http://royallane.org/resources/event)

## Prayer Requests

We invite you to submit prayer requests by filling out the prayer request form on the website at [royallane.org/prayer](http://royallane.org/prayer) or by scanning the QR code.

## Deacons on Call

Leslie Cechan & Cecilia Gutierrez

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*REQUEST*

*PRAYER*



# *GIVING* AT ROYAL LANE

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We encourage you to support the missions and ministries of our church. Text “GIVE” to 214-609-1200 or scan the QR code. Follow the prompts to complete the process. Standard text message rates may apply. You can also donate online at [royallane.org/give](http://royallane.org/give).

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*ONLINE*

*GIVING*



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## ROYAL LANE STAFF

Rev. Victoria Robb Powers, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Harry Wooten, Minister of Music and Worship  
Rev. Beth Johnson, Minister to Children, Youth, & Families  
Tori Jones, Communications & Ministry Coordinator  
Mel Beller, Pastoral Intern  
Mara Bim, Justice & Advocacy Fellow  
Cathy Walling, Office Administrator & Prophetic Leadership  
Program Coordinator

Jeanie Chuang, Pianist  
Mike Hurder, Maintenance Director  
Taide Guerra, Housekeeping  
Ben Chamero, Livestream Technician  
Brandon Green, Audio Technician  
Brian Stinecipher, Audio Technician  
Blake Vickrey, Audio Technician



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